



# Press Release

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## **DHS WORKS WITH PARTNERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND AROUND THE WORLD TO ASSESS THE NATION'S CYBER INCIDENT RESPONSE CAPABILITIES**

WASHINGTON—Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano today announced the beginning of Cyber Storm III—a three-day long, DHS-sponsored exercise that brings together a diverse cross-section of the nation's cyber incident responders to assess U.S. cyber response capabilities.

"Securing America's cyber infrastructure requires close coordination with our federal, state, international and private sector partners," said Secretary Napolitano. "Exercises like Cyber Storm III allow us build upon the significant progress we've made in responding to evolving cyber threats."

Cyber Storm III is an exercise scenario that simulates a large-scale cyber attack on critical infrastructure across the nation. The goal of the exercise is to examine and strengthen collective cyber preparedness and response capabilities, involving thousands of participants across government and industry.

As part of Cyber Storm III, DHS will exercise elements of the newly-developed National Cyber Incident Response Plan (NCIRP)—a blueprint for the Nation's cybersecurity incident response.

Cyber Storm III participants include:

- Administration-Wide—Seven Cabinet-level departments including Commerce, Defense, Energy, Homeland Security, Justice, Transportation and Treasury, in addition to the White House and representatives from the intelligence and law enforcement communities.
- Eleven States—California, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, as well as the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAC).
- 12 International Partners—Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.
- 60 Private Sector Companies—DHS worked with representatives from the Banking and Finance, Chemical, Communications, Dams, Defense Industrial Base, Information Technology, Nuclear, Transportation, and Water Sectors, as well as the corresponding Sector Coordinating Councils and ISACs, to identify private sector participants.

Cyber Storm III also represents the first major exercise testing the new National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC)—which serves as the hub of national cybersecurity coordination and was established in October of 2009.

For more information on Cyber Storm III, please visit: [http://www.dhs.gov/files/training/gc\\_1204738275985.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/files/training/gc_1204738275985.shtm)